

opportunities, and coordinated volunteers to support the work of the community.

Jerry dedicated his life to serving the residents of his hometown. While working for UPS, Jerry also served as a special assistant to San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos in 1988. In this position, Jerry established the Department of Parking and Traffic. He also served as Chairman of Mayor Agnos' Taxi Committee where he wrote the taxi industry's manual and created a management structure for over three hundred parking control officers. In 2008 Jerry was appointed by Mayor Gavin Newsom to join San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's (SFMTA) Board of Directors, and was later re-appointed by Mayor Ed Lee. Jerry served as SFMTA Vice Chairman until 2010 before becoming Chair of the Board's Policy and Governance Committee.

Jerry also served as a member of the city's Citizen's Advisory Committee as well as Self-Help for the Elderly's Board of Directors. He and his wife, Beverly, were actively involved in their community, working with the San Francisco Chinese New Year Parade, Chinatown Community Development Center, Community Youth Center of San Francisco, Cameron House, Wu Yee Children's Services, United Way of the Bay Area, Have a Ball Foundation, Salvation Army, APA Family Services, Glide Memorial Church, the San Francisco Junior Giants, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, On Lok, Boys & Girls Club, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, and the Asian Police Officers Association.

Jerry is survived by his wife Beverly; his children Kimberly, Corbett, and Bennett; his mother Sai Soo Lee; and his sisters Aimee, Vickie, Marie and Patricia; and his aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews. Jerry was preceded in death by his father, Fon Yook Lee. To his fellow committee members and fellow organization members, Jerry will be missed and never forgotten.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND FAMILIES

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2015

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the dedicated men and women who serve and protect our communities every day as members of police departments large and small.

In recent months, we have seen chilling examples of how a lack of appreciation and respect for these men and women can rip apart communities and result in senseless and lethal violence.

All of us would be well-served to remember that the men and women who pin on a badge every day are not just police officers. They are also husbands and wives; mothers and fathers; brothers and sisters; aunts and uncles.

We should all recognize that police officers do more than just patrol our streets. They are part of our community.

In light of recent events, it is important to express our gratitude and offer a simple "thank you" to the countless law enforcement officers who serve with valor and distinction.

I had the honor of doing just this last weekend in West Chester, and again will have the

honor of doing so this weekend in Berks County. Let us all be solemnly reminded that the Thin Blue Line is willing to risk their own safety so that our loved ones, our homes and our businesses are protected.

So ahead of this upcoming weekend, I want to personally thank the efforts of retired Reading Police Lieutenant Michael Kurtz, Tricia Wertz—a widow of fallen Reading Police Officer Scott Wertz—and many, many others as the Berks County community will unite to show respect and in the spirit of building stronger, safer communities where all lives matter.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2015

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, on January 6, 2015 I missed recorded votes #1–7 as I was attending the funeral of Governor Mario Cuomo in New York.

I would like to reflect how I would have voted if I were here and sworn into office:

On Roll Call #1 I would have voted present (Quorum Call).

On Roll Call #2 I would have voted for NANCY PELOSI for Speaker.

On Roll Call #3 I would have voted "no" (Motion to Table).

On Roll Call #4 I would have voted "no" (Previous Question).

On Roll Call #5 I would have voted "yes" (Motion to Commit).

On Roll Call #6 I would have voted "no" (Passage of House Rules Package).

On Roll Call #7 I would have voted "yes" (Passage "Hire More Heroes Act" H.R. 22).

HONORING AMERICA'S PEACE OFFICERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, everyday men and women of the police force put on their uniform and head out into the unknown. They encounter callous criminals and outlaws who have no regard for the law or their fellow man.

But yet every day, these police officers still get up and put on the uniform. They bravely face what could very well be some of the most dangerous situations and potentially their last moments on this Earth as they work to protect us: our families, our friends, our children. Because that's what they do, they work to restore and maintain peace in our communities and neighborhoods.

When New York Police Officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu woke up on the morning of December 20th to put on their uniform, they had no idea it would be their last day. The two patrol officers were sitting in their squad car, working overtime, when a hateful and spiteful criminal struck. The ruthless murderer shot and killed the two officers in cold blood.

Officer Ramos and Officer Liu's lives were robbed from them.

Officer Liu was married only two months before, and now his wife is left as a widow. Officer Ramos was a devoted husband and father, active in his church with plans to join the ministry. These two men of solid character, were targeted and attacked. So much hate has been hurled at police officers.

Recently, two more New York Police Officers were shot while investigating a robbery call in the Bronx when they were shot and wounded by criminals. The disrespect of our law enforcement must stop. The soulless thugs who hunt down police officers and kill them have to be punished to the highest degree.

Underneath these uniforms are moms, dads, sisters, brothers, cousins and friends. Protecting us is their job. It is their duty to bring safety to our communities, to separate anarchy from order, and to bring justice to crime victims. No police officer should have to be any more fearful than they already are for their life while on patrol.

As Americans, we must let them know that we support them and are grateful for all they do for our communities. A nationwide campaign called Project Blue Light was launched to show support for the special men and women in our police force.

A single blue light in a window or front porch shows support for our peace officers. Neighborhoods, communities and towns should beam the glow of blue in support of these community warriors. Take the time to thank a police officer.

To many, the unknown is terrifying, but to police officers, it's just another day. Today, on National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, we lift up all those who put their lives on the line every single day for us. They deserve the utmost respect and support not just today but every day of the year.

During my other life, I was a prosecutor and criminal court judge in Houston, Texas. I have known and still know individuals who wear the badge or the star over their heart. Some of those peace officers I knew gave their lives for the safety of others.

Peace officers put their lives between us and criminals. They stand between the law and the lawless. I have had the opportunity to know peace officers from all over the U.S.—including New York and especially New York City.

Years ago, I taught at the New York State Police Academy. After those folks from New York and I got through the language barrier, I found them to be some of New York's finest of people—some of the best peace officers in the country.

Peace officers are necessary in our society because some in our country refuse to follow the law. Ironically, we hire these men and women to do society's dirty work then society criticizes them for their actions.

Peace officers are the last strand of wire in the fence between the fox and the chickens. They have earned and deserve our respect. America should mourn the ambush and assassination of all those in law enforcement who have given their lives for order in America—especially the men in blue of New York.

And that's just the way it is.